



LIFE AFTER *STRONGER BY DEGREES*

Planning for the
Next Statewide Strategic Agenda

March 31, 2015

Goal of this session



To gather feedback from the higher education community about student success issues and strategies to better inform the 2016-2020 Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education.

Specific Focus



How can Kentucky improve student retention and completion, particularly for low-income, minority, and underprepared populations?

Strategic Agenda Background



- ❖ Part of Kentucky's 1997 higher education reforms
- ❖ Among the first states to strategically link state higher education goals with citizens' social well-being and economic prosperity
- ❖ Simple, short plan framed around key policy areas which are tied to state needs
- ❖ Comprehensive accountability system measuring progress at the state and campus levels
- ❖ Updated every five years

Statewide Strategic Agenda

□ What it **IS**:

- A higher education planning blueprint for Kentucky
- Focused on the needs of the state and her people
- It clearly articulates what we want to achieve
- Reflective of collective values and goals
- A way to measure progress and adjust our course if needed

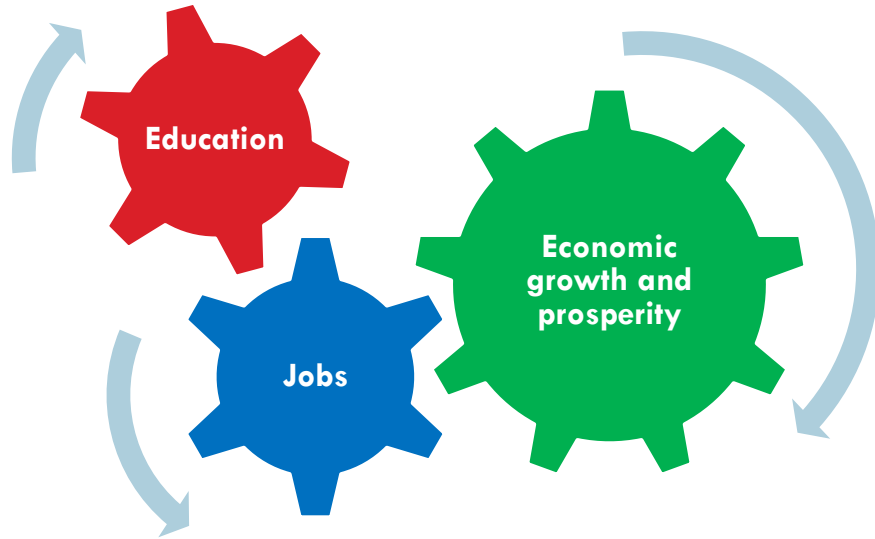
□ What it **ISN'T**:

- A replacement for campus strategic plans
- Focused on the needs and goals of individual campuses
- The CPE's strategic plan
- A static plan that cannot be changed
- A publication that gathers dust on a shelf

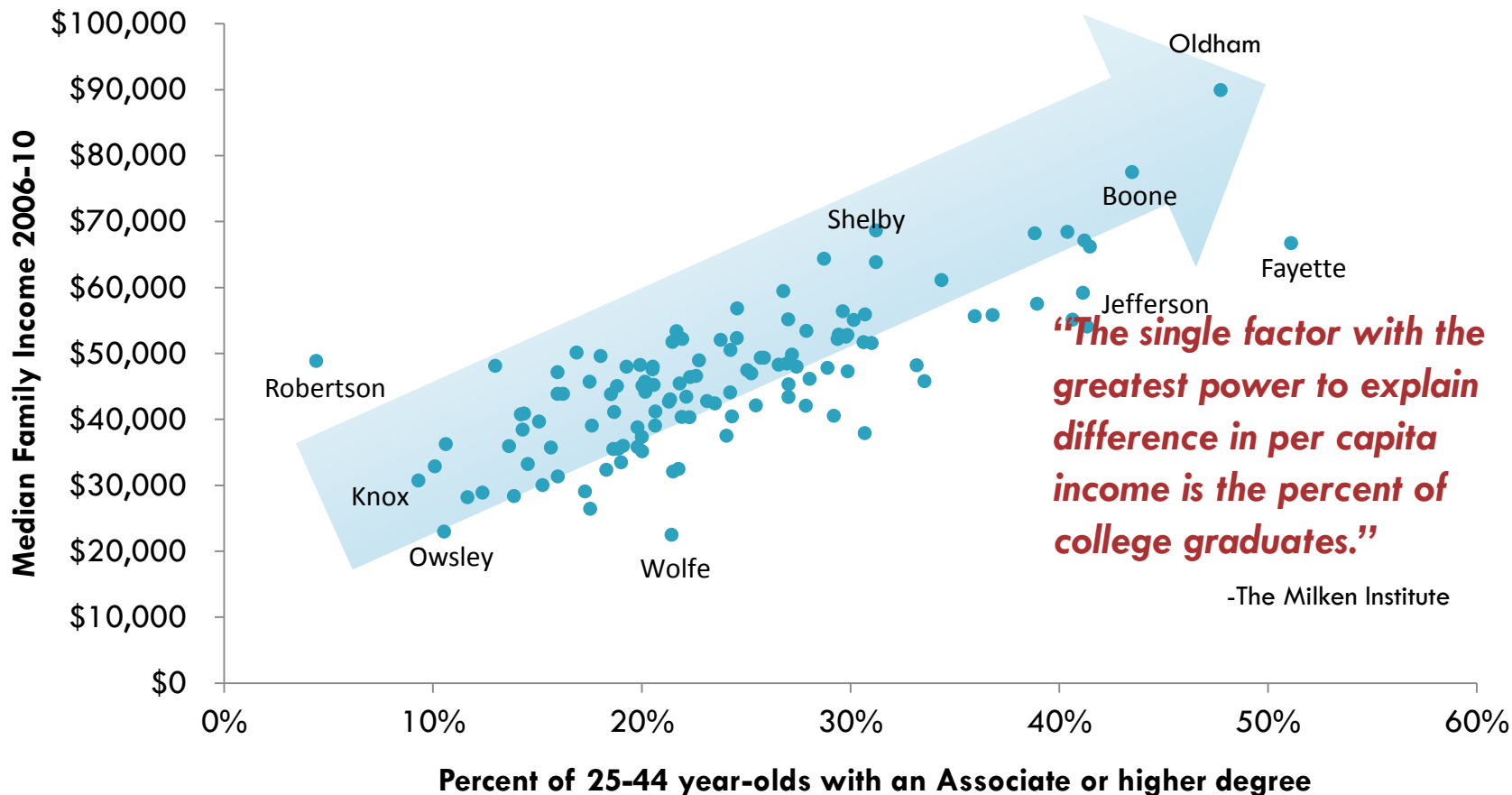


Current Landscape

Educational Attainment, Jobs & Quality of Life are Inextricably Linked



The Link Between Earnings and Education in Kentucky by County



Higher Levels of Education Mean:



- Higher rates of voting and volunteering
- Lower rates of smoking & obesity
- Better health
- More tax revenue
- More parental involvement in schools
- Lower rates of incarceration
- Lower rates of unemployment/public assistance

We are making progress

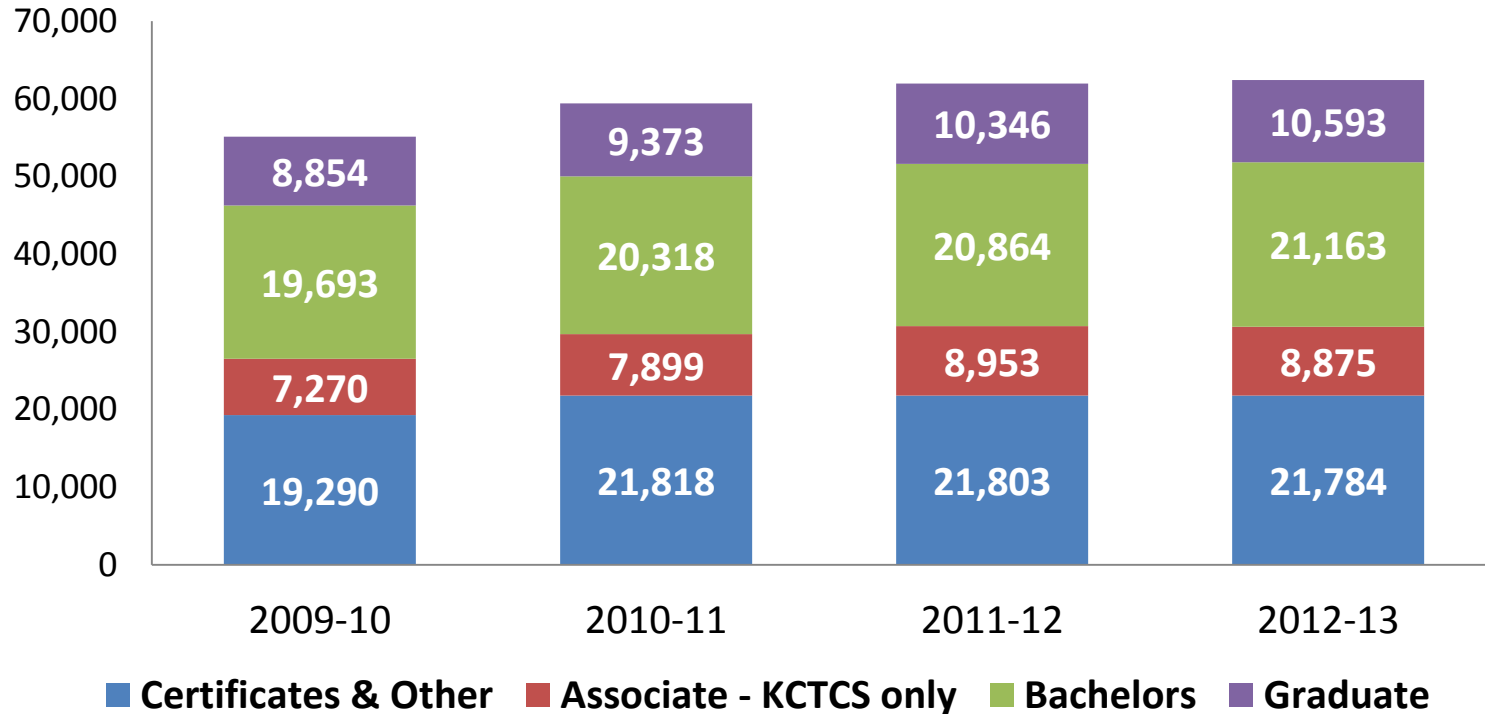


- ❑ Degrees and credentials have increased at all levels over the past five years
- ❑ Graduation rates are climbing (slowly); however, achievement gaps persist
- ❑ Credits transferred from KCTCS to four year campuses has risen significantly in recent years
- ❑ More students are taking advantage of online and early college options
- ❑ Educational attainment levels of our citizens is increasing.

Degrees and Credentials



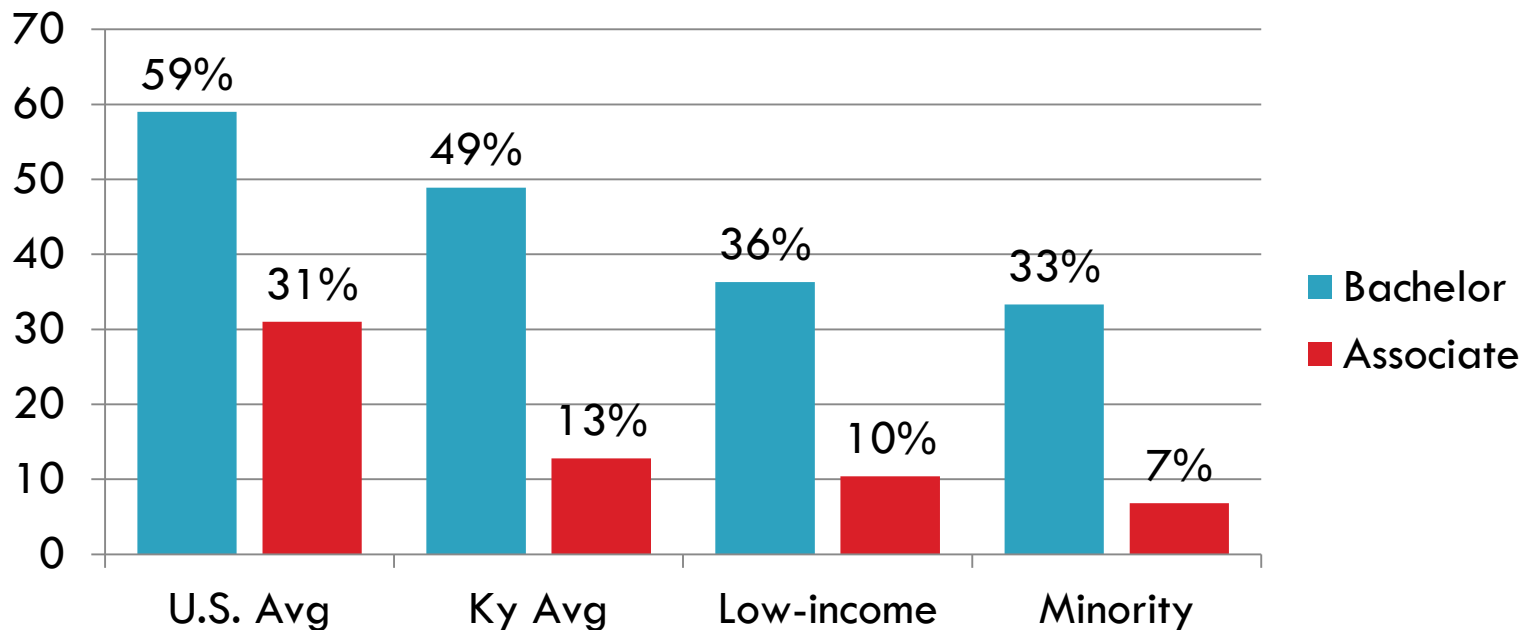
Steady growth in the number of degrees produced in KY



Graduation rates



Graduation rates have increased, but gaps persist



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPES) and CPE Comprehensive Database, 2013

Challenges on the Horizon

- ❖ Increasing and vocal **demand for talented, job-ready graduates** responsive to immediate workforce demands
- ❖ **Growing campus diversity** and increased attention to the needs of underrepresented and adult populations
- ❖ Growing levels of **student debt** and slowing support for financial aid and campus operations
- ❖ Growing debate about **value of college**
- ❖ Rise of **new academic models** (competency-based education, credit for prior learning)
- ❖ **Regional disparities** related to college going, student success and educational attainment

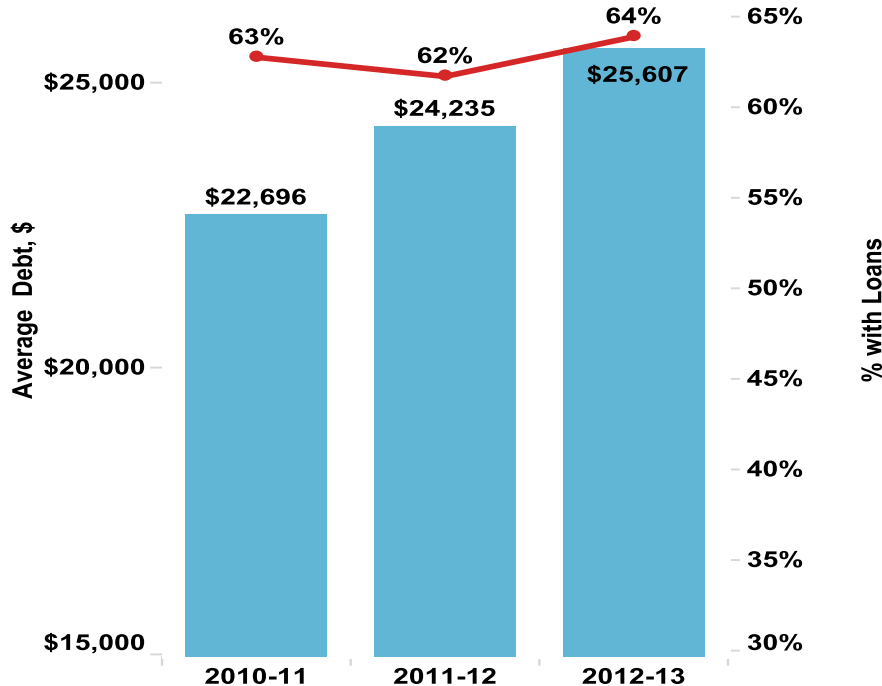
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-10 American Community Survey.

Debt Levels



Loan Debt of Kentucky Public 4-Year Institutions' Graduates Has Increased Over the Past Years



Student debt in Kentucky is low by national standards, but has increased in recent years.

Key Initiatives



- Transfer Action Plan
- Degree Pathways
- P-20 Data System
- Professional Development
- Statewide Diversity Policy and Strategies
- Focus on quality and persistence
- 15 to Finish

Stronger By Degrees

Current Mission:

To deliver a world-class education to students, create and apply new knowledge, and grow the economy of the Commonwealth.

Four Focus Areas:

- ❑ College Readiness
- ❑ Student Success
- ❑ Research, Economic, and Community Development
- ❑ Efficiency & Innovation



Student Success - Objectives and Strategies



Policy Objective 4: Increase high-quality degree production and completion rates and close achievement gaps for lower-income, underprepared, and underrepresented minority students.

Specific strategies

- ❑ Maximize KCTCS's role as a high quality, low-cost provider of postsecondary education and transfer opportunities.
- ❑ Provide incentives to increase degree production and completion rates.
- ❑ Increase use of data, research, and technology to improve learning & outcomes.

Student Success - Objectives and Strategies



Policy Objective 4 strategies (continued)

- ❑ Support new pathways for adult learners to enroll and complete postsecondary degrees and credentials.
- ❑ Promote student engagement, undergraduate research, internships, and other educational opportunities that improve the quality of the student experience, develop leaders, and lead to success after graduation.

Student Success Metrics



- ❑ Number of Degrees and Credentials
- ❑ Transfers
- ❑ Graduation rates
- ❑ Percentage of credits earned through online learning
- ❑ Total credits earned by bachelor degree graduates

Time to brainstorm

